

**From:** John Panzer  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/23/02 11:29pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to protest the proposed settlement agreement relating to the antitrust action against Microsoft Corporation. It effectively maintains the status quo, and does not do anything to deter Microsoft from future anticompetitive practices or do anything substantive to remedy the its past abuses of its OS monopoly. The company has shown no indication that it plans to change its practices. This settlement does not serve as a deterrent, nor does it directly prevent future monopolistic abuses.

There are many shortcomings to the proposed settlement, and others have pointed them out more ably than I can. I will just add two more suggestions:

(1) Microsoft should be required to fully and accurately document all the file formats that its OS and application products use. This is a major, and artificial, barrier to interoperation between Microsoft products and other products.

(2) As the equivalent of a "common carrier" in the OS world, Microsoft should be required to give access in a nondiscriminatory manner to all organizations, individuals, or companies who wish to create software to interoperate with their OSs and applications. A neutral regulatory body should review their licences, present and future, to ensure that they meet this standard. The body should have veto power over all such licences.

Thank you,

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